

cityscene

What's happening in the City of Fairfax

JULY 2019

BEST-KEPT SECRETS



In honor of the Fourth of July and a little financial freedom, we decided to pass along information about Fairfax City services that have a delightful price tag: they're free. Some are obvious, and some, well, deserve a standing O for their creativity. Most of us know about free events like Rock and Block and Movies Under the Moon, but here's to services that won't dent, or even scratch, our wallets.

Turn to
page 5
for more
**free
STUFF**

City of Fairfax Fire Department

Child Safety Seat Inspections. The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration reported of the 3,500 child restraint systems, 72 percent are used improperly. To reduce the risk of injury to children involved in a motor vehicle collision, the city's fire department offers free child safety seat inspections and training for city residents.



City Survey

FAVORITE FOURTH OF JULY ACTIVITY?

The city's Independence Day Celebration is like no other in the region. So, for this month's online survey, we asked residents to name the activity they love the most.

4%
FREE HISTORICAL
TOURS



7%
FIREHOUSE #3
KIDS DAY



60%
INDEPENDENCE DAY
PARADE



10%
EVENING SHOW AT
FAIRFAX HIGH SCHOOL



19%
FIREWORKS SHOW

THIS MONTH IN FAIRFAX CITY

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CITY NEWS



Independence Day Closures, July 4

City government offices: closed

Recycling Center: closed

General District Court: closed

Historic Blenheim: closed

Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center:
open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

No CUE Bus service

Holiday Refuse/Recycling Collection Schedule

Thursday, July 4: no service

Friday, July 5: Thursday and Friday refuse
& recycling routes collected

July 1-5: all city neighborhoods may experi-
ence yard-debris collection service delays



Fight the Bite: Tip and Toss Standing Water

As warm weather arrives, so do mosquitoes, which can spread viruses such as Zika and West Nile. "Fight the bite" by implementing a household mosquito control program, with help from the Fairfax County Health Department. Tip and toss standing water — or treat standing water with safe larvicides — and carefully treat the yard with safe insecticides. Also, keep butterflies, honeybees and other outdoor friends in mind when treating yards. *Info: fairfaxcounty.gov and search "Fight the Bite," 703-246-2411*

City's Annual Budget Available, July 1

Read and download the city's annual operating budget and Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for fiscal year 2019-20. Find it at fairfaxva.gov/budget, or request a printed copy (limited number available). *Info: 703-385-7870*

Animal Adoptions, July 20

Find a new animal friend with the help of the City of Fairfax Animal Control and Animal Shelter. The office holds animal adoption events on the third Saturday of the month. To see who's available for adoption at any time, visit the city home page, click How Do I, and choose "Adopt a Pet." *Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Hwy., 11 am-2 pm*

Keep Fireworks Safe

Fireworks are as dangerous as they are beautiful, and their misuse can cause fires, injury, property loss and death. If you do light fireworks at home, only purchase ones for sale by licensed merchants, and handle them with care. Not all fireworks are permitted in the city, so avoid fireworks that explode, emit a flame, spark higher than 15 feet or are projectiles.

Accessory Dwelling Units: What to Know

City homeowners, who wish create an independent living unit for an aging family member or for extra income, may consider an accessory dwelling unit (ADU). An ADU may be established in owner-occupied homes where either the property owner or ADU occupant is 55 years of age or older and/or has a physical or mental impairment. An ADU must be a complete and independent living unit attached as part of the primary home, but may not exceed 35 percent of the total gross floor area of the principal dwelling unit. The ADU must include a separate kitchen, sleeping and bathroom facilities.

For an ADU, homeowners must obtain:

- Zoning Permit for Residential Accessory Use and Occupancy (Zoning Office, 703.385.7820)
- Business License, if the ADU generates income for the property owner (Commissioner of the Revenue, 703.385.7884)

BESIDES THE SUBJECTS, WHAT'S THE BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO CITY OF FAIRFAX FOURTH OF JULY PARADE PICTURES?

Hint: It's all about the route. The black-and-white image from 1971 (below) of Fairfax Police Youth Club shows our parade winding down Route 50 (in front of what's now Party City and Panera).

1971



VINTAGE
FAIRFAX

1976



The color image (above) shows marchers in 1976 — in front of what's now Sisters Thai on University — yes, in Old Town, where the parade moved in 1974. Thanks to Susan Gray of the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center for the 1971 image and to Glenn Gore for the image from the nation's bicentennial. Also, thanks to city resident and former council member Ellie Schmidt who answered the question of when the parade moved to Old Town. She had a copy of the *Cityscene* to prove her point! Explore more local history, including incredible photography, at the Fairfax Museum (10209 Main St.) and the Virginia Room of the City of Fairfax Regional Library (10360 North St.).



WATER WORLD

Talk about impressive numbers. The city has a network of storm drains with nearly 4,000 inlet points and 145 outfalls, where collected water is discharged to surface streams. Remember, storm drains are separate from the sanitary sewer system and don't have a filtration system. Most storm drains are short sections of small pipe, but much larger sections carry natural waterways underneath developed areas. One thing they all have in common: They drain to the city's Accotink Creek and, eventually, the Chesapeake Bay.

THINK RAIN. Only rain down the drain. The storm drain network is only intended to collect and move naturally occurring storm water. Exceptions are granted only for clean water from natural springs, foundation, crawl space, footing drains, irrigation and residential car washing. (Other specific discharges by local, state or federal permit or by city or water system employees are also permitted.)



PICK UP PET WASTE. It isn't just the neighborly thing to do. Picking up pet waste is a major factor in keeping water clean. Contamination from pet waste entering the storm drain system is a leading cause of water pollution and *e. coli* in Northern Virginia.

EVALUATE LAWN CARE. Many homeowners fertilize lawns in spring. The downside? Rain is more likely to wash the product off the lawn into the storm drain network. Test your soil and apply fertilizer only as needed. And if you must fertilize, do it in the fall, when it will be more likely to stay put and become effective. You'll save money and prevent a major source of surface water pollution.

WASH CARS WITH CARE. Although residential car washing is permitted, the detergent is harmful; consider parking on grass while you wash. Best bet: Go to a car wash, where water is properly treated.

DON'T DUMP. No chemicals should ever be dumped in the storm drain. A single gallon of petroleum product can contaminate up to one million gallons of water, and a single pint of oil can spread over an acre of open water. Fines for these infractions can be \$2,500, and violators can serve up to a year in jail. (City residents: Take hazardous household waste to the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road.)

WATCH THE SUMP. Building code and environmental protection laws prohibit the discharge of so-called gray water from a utility sink or washing machine drain into a sump crock or other area that discharges to the storm drain network. (Uncontaminated sump pump discharges and A/C condensate lines are allowed to drain to the storm drain.)

If you see something you believe is causing a storm drain pollution problem, call the City of Fairfax Fire Marshal's office at 703.385.7830 or, if it's after hours, the City of Fairfax Police at 703-385-7924. Calls can be anonymous.



5 MINUTES WITH ...

DANIEL GRIMM DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE



DID YOU KNOW?

Deputy Police Chief Daniel Grimm says his department has lots going on this year, including:

CIVIL DISTURBANCE The department is currently in the process of making changes to and revitalizing its Civil Disturbance Unit, a crowd-control measure that ensures local agencies are adequately prepared.

NEW FIREARMS RANGE Earlier this year, the city opened a new state-of-the-art firearms range located in the Property Yard on Pickett Road. The facility is shared by the city's police departments and those of George Mason University and the City of Falls Church.

BIG ANNIVERSARY This year marks the 70th anniversary of the City of Fairfax Police Department, which has one of the best reputations in the region for the community safety, responsiveness and engagement.

How long have you been with the city's Police Department? I'll celebrate 22 years with the department on July 1, and I've spent my entire career with the city.

You're a local guy, yes? I grew up in Fairfax City and attended St. Leo's Elementary School, Paul VI High School ... then left for school at Stonehill College in North Easton, Massachusetts.

After 22 years, you've likely had lots of experiences — give us an overview. I've had roles as a patrol officer, detective with the NOVA Gang Task

Force, field training officer, patrol sergeant and lieutenant, public information officer, professional standards division commander, field operations division commander, emergency services team member and commander, crisis negotiations team member and civil disturbance team member.

What do you enjoy most about the department and working in the city?

The people with whom I work and, in general, as it relates to police work, seeing what will happen next. And I enjoy being able to serve the community where I was born and raised."

Questions: Police Non-Emergency: 703.385.7924

BY THE NUMBERS

Strong Salute

We don't like to boast, but there's not a better Independence Day celebration in the Mid-Atlantic than the bash we host in the city — featuring fun from 10 in the morning until 10:30 at night. Which got us to thinking: What are the numbers behind this terrific city celebration? Our friends in Parks and Recreation and the chair of the Independence Day Celebration Committee, the tireless Beverly Meyers, had the answers. Info: fairfaxva.gov/july4, 703.385.7858

120

Number of entries in the parade, including the precision team of marching librarians — with book carts — from the City of Fairfax Regional Library ... yeah, a must-see

10

Number of marching bands in the parade (including marchers from Maryland, D.C., Virginia, California and Minnesota)

110-120

Number of parade volunteers (including float handlers, drivers and route officials)

22

Duration, in minutes, of the evening fireworks show — including a 2-minute opening barrage and 5-minute grand finale

TWELVE THOUSAND

Number of people who attend the evening show and fireworks at Fairfax High School (this year's entertainment: local favorites The Darby Brothers)

ANIMAL CONTROL

DOG Days

July marks the hottest month of the year, and you're not the only one feeling the heat: your dog is, too. Fairfax City Animal Control Officer Joyce Holden has a few recommendations on how to keep Fido fresh and safe.

BEAT THE HEAT. "The sun is the brightest in the early afternoon, and the warmest temperatures are in the early evening — 3 to 6 pm," Holden says, meaning your dog is at risk if left untended outside during these hours.

DRINK UP. If your dog must be outside, make sure there's plenty of shade and water available. Dogs get just as thirsty as we do in this weather and are at risk for dehydration. "Carry portable or collapsible water bowls on long walks," Holden says. "Keep multiple bowls of clean water around the home." These precautions allow dogs to stay hydrated and can help prevent heatstroke.

WATCH FOR SIGNS OF HEATSTROKE.

Warning signs of heatstroke for dogs include bright or dark red gums or tongue, excessive panting, glassy eyes and collapsing. Should your dog exhibit these signs, take it to a veterinarian immediately. Elderly dogs and dogs with shorter snouts are more likely to overheat, so make sure to keep a close eye on them.

MAKE (STREET) SENSE. If the sidewalk or street pavement feels hot to your touch, it's too hot for your best friend's paws. "Dogs don't wear shoes. The pads of their paws can quickly burn and suffer serious injuries when subjected to hot pavement for extended periods of time," Holden warns. And finally, the most obvious: Dogs can overheat very quickly in a car, so never leave them alone in a vehicle, even if the windows are down. Here's to a safe and chill summer for our city's dogs. If you have questions, reach out to Joyce Holden at 703.385.7919 or joyce.holden@fairfaxva.gov





continued from page 1



City of Fairfax Fire Department

Smoke Alarm Inspection/Installation.

More than 38 percent of home fire deaths result from fires where there were no smoke alarms. Our fire department provides smoke-alarm inspections and the installation of free alarms for city residents. *More info about these programs:* 703.385.7940



Transportation

Free CUE rides. Our 12 buses rolling through the city offer free rides to the city's middle and high-school students, as well as to students, faculty and staff of George Mason University. *Info:* 703.385.7859 or email pw-transportation@fairfaxva.gov

Parks and Recreation

Tents, Tables and Chairs Loans.

Is your civic association or neighborhood hosting a big event this year? If you need these essentials, they can be loaned out.

Civic Association or HOA Speakers.

Do you and your neighbors want to learn more about parks and rec issues and opportunities? Or perhaps you have some suggestions for programs or parks improvement. A member of the parks and rec team will come speak to your group.

Financial Assistance. The city's parks and rec programs are for everyone. City residents who want to participate in a range of activities but can't afford the fees may be able to receive a financial boost. *More info about these programs:* 703.385.7858

City of Fairfax Police Department

Exchange Zone. Making a transaction on Craigslist or another online marketplace and worried about the exchange? Do it at our police department to help reduce and deter fraudulent transactions. The setup also maintains privacy when conducting legal, private transactions. Residents can find two clearly marked parking spaces in the front lot of the department (3730 Old Lee Hwy.).

Home Security. How safe is your home from crime? Let the pros tell you with a visual and physical inspection. Our officers will make recommendations on how you can reduce your chances of becoming a victim of crime by using crime-prevention techniques. Officers are specially trained and will evaluate the risk factors for your home. Reviews will include everything from doors/window locks to exterior lighting to security of sheds, carports and garages. *To schedule a free security survey of your home or business, contact the department's Community Services Section:* 703.273.2889.

Community Development and Planning

Application Assistance. If you need to submit an application for a construction or zoning permit, our staff will walk you through the process at no charge — just come to the front desk.

City Data and Project Maps. Residents, students and others looking for data about the city can check out the free City of Fairfax Fact Book. Also, a fairly new resource allows residents to see everything from future projects to land-use maps. *Info:* fairfaxva.gov, search "Community Development and Planning"



Cultural Arts

Local Artists. The Fairfax Art League (fairfaxartleague.net) and the Artists Coalition of Fairfax (faceadvocacy.net) boasts a free gallery in Old Town Hall and City of Fairfax Regional Library. The Artists Coalition of Fairfax has a gallery in the Sherwood Center.

Old Town Hall, Huddleson Memorial Library.

Didn't realize there's a great and historic library on the second floor of Old Town Hall? You're not alone — it's free and available to all city residents. *Info:* Fairfaxva.gov, search "Cultural Arts," 703.273.6097



Economic Development

Ribbon-Cutting. Do you have a new business that deserves a little love in the spotlight? Our economic development office will set up a ribbon-cutting, complete with members of the City Council and Economic Development Authority.

City Business Directory. This online tool garners lots of traffic at fairfaxva.gov and fairfaxcityconnected.com — and city businesses can get listings for free. *Info:* Fairfaxcityconnected.com

Commissioner of the Revenue

State and Federal Tax Help. The Commissioner and his staff are available to assist all city residents in completing their annual income and/or estimated tax returns. Also, for residents who qualify, the staff offers free tax preparation. *Info:* Fairfaxva.gov, search "Commissioner of the Revenue," 703.385.7885

City of Fairfax Regional Library

Memory Depot. Want to digitize VHS cassettes or old photos? Our library has the tools to do it — at no cost. The DIY station allows you to get started easily; just remember to bring your library card and a portable hard drive or USB to download your materials. And yes, there's a free 30-minute orientation. *Info:* 703.293.6227

Historic Resources

Historical and Genealogical Info. Want to learn about your family's roots, or perhaps you're simply interested in learning more about a particular family? Our team will share info from research and resource files, which cover a range of Fairfax-related topics — including the popular search for Civil War-era ancestors.

Archival Searches. Our staff will also help pinpoint the wonderful resources at both the Virginia Room at the Fairfax City Regional Library and the Historic Records Office at the Fairfax County Circuit Court Archives.

Tours. Never been inside Blenheim or the Kitty Pozer House? There are regularly scheduled tours, of course, but also free tours by appointment. *Info:* Fairfaxva.gov, search "Historic Resources," 703.273.5452

on a roll

In early July, the city will begin to see electric scooters, or e-scooters, in Old Town, in our neighborhoods and across the city. It's part of a one-year pilot program. We sat down with Chloe Ritter, the city's multi-modal transportation planner, to get an idea of what residents can expect.

How many scooters will be in the city? Each company operating during the city's pilot program — and there will be three — can deploy up to 250 e-scooters to start.

Companies may also be permitted to operate at George Mason University or in other neighboring communities in Fairfax County. So, more e-scooters could be available nearby.

How are scooters rented? Users will download a smartphone app to rent a scooter. The app will help users locate and rent a scooter.

How much does it cost to rent a scooter? Most companies charge a flat fee of \$1 to start a trip, plus a per-minute fee — usually 15¢ per minute — for the amount of time you have the e-scooter rented. You can often reserve an e-scooter if you want to make sure it's still available when you make a stop — for example, while you run into a store — but you'll pay for the time it's reserved.

How old does a rider have to be to use a scooter? Different companies may have different rules, but most require users to be age 18 or older to rent an e-scooter. Read the user agreements for details, and remember that the individual renting the e-scooter typically accepts all responsibility for their safety when they accept the user agreement.

Do I need to wear a helmet? The city encourages everyone to use a helmet when they ride an e-scooter, and many of the companies may give away helmets at events. However, the law does not require you to wear a helmet.

What about traffic laws? State law considers e-scooters to be vehicles for transportation, so traffic laws that apply to bikes also come into play: riding in bike lanes or on the right side of the road, riding in the same direction as traffic, using hand signals to communicate when you're turning, yielding to pedestrians, and obeying all traffic signs and signals.

Where do I ride? Bikes lanes and the street. In most of the city, biking and riding e-scooters or other vehicles on the sidewalk isn't allowed. On certain designated routes, riding on the sidewalk, on a shared-use path or on a trail may be allowed.

Where do I leave my scooter when I'm done? Remember, scooters shouldn't block the sidewalk, curb ramp or crosswalks, roads, doorways or other walkways and places that people need to access. When there's room, the best place to park an e-scooter is next to a bike rack. During the pilot program, city staff will look at where e-scooters are in high demand and work with the scooter companies to determine where to designate and mark e-scooter parking areas.

Can I ride a scooter on the George Mason University campus? We expect that Mason may decide to permit e-scooters on parts of campus. However, we can't guarantee if, when or where this will be allowed or which companies may be permitted.

Where do I go to provide feedback and learn more?

If you have an issue with a specific e-scooter or e-scooter company, contact the company directly. For all other comments and info, visit fairfaxva.gov/dockless.

community Calendar

JULY 2019



Visit fairfaxva.gov for late-breaking news and event information.
Calendar information is subject to last-minute change.

10 am: Independence Day Parade, Old Town Fairfax
9 am-4 pm: Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center Open House, 10209 Main St.
11:30 am-1 pm: Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House Tours, 10386 Main St.
Noon: OFirehouse #3 Kids Day, 4081 University Dr.
6:30-10:30 pm: **EVENING SHOW & FIREWORKS***
Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run
• 6:30-9 pm: Children's activities
• 7-8 pm: Live music by The Darby Brothers
• 8 pm: Awards presentation
• 8:30-9:30 pm: The Darby Brothers
• 9:30 pm: Fireworks, followed by The Darby Brothers

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Watch live and taped proceedings of City Council meetings or read reports of meetings by visiting fairfaxva.gov and clicking this icon on the home page.	1 Funday Monday, 10:30 am, Old Town Hall School Board meeting, 7:30 pm, City Hall Annex	2 City Council work session, 7 pm, City Hall Annex	3 Economic Development Authority meeting, 6 pm (location to be announced) Board of Architectural Review meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex	4  July 4 Shuttles running before and after the parade and evening show. Visit fairfaxva.gov and search "special events" for schedules.	5 BINGO, 7 pm, Fire Station 3* *Rain date for fireworks only Thursday the 4th and Friday the 5th refuse and recycling routes collected; yard waste collection delayed	6 Community Farmers' Market, 8 am-1 pm, 10500 Page Ave.
7 Community Farmers' Market, 8 am-1 pm, 10500 Page Ave.	8 Funday Monday, 10:30 am, Old Town Hall Planning Commission meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex	9 City Council meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex [CC]	10 Historic Fairfax City, Inc., annual meeting, 7 pm, Historic Blenheim League of Women Voters meeting, 7:15 pm, Green Acres Center	11 Art & Lunch with Fairfax Art League, 10:30 am, Old Town Hall Summer Under the Stars, 7:30 pm, Children's Concert, Veterans Amphitheater Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting, 7 pm, City Hall	12 BINGO, 7 pm, Fire Station 3* Movies Under the Moon, 8 pm, Van Dyck Park	13 Community Farmers' Market, 8 am-1 pm, 10500 Page Ave. Document Shredding Event, 7 am, Mason District Government Center, Annandale Kidz Korner, 10:30 am, Old Town Square Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House tours, 11 am-2 pm, 10386 Main St.
14 Community Farmers' Market, 8 am-1 pm, 10500 Page Ave. Second Sunday: Red Cross World War II Wartime Knitting, 2 pm, Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center	15 Funday Monday, 10:30 am, Old Town Hall	16 Commission for Women, 7 pm, City Hall	17 Board of Architectural Review meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex Fairfax City Citizens for Smarter Growth meeting, 7 pm, City of Fairfax Regional Library	18 Summer Under the Stars, 7:30 pm, Veterans Amphitheater City of Fairfax Republican Committee meeting, 7:30 pm, Old Firehouse #3	19 Sherwood Family Movie Night, 7 pm, Sherwood Center BINGO, 7pm, Fire Station 3*	20 Community Farmers' Market, 8 am-1 pm, 10500 Page Ave. Kidz Korner, 10:30 am, Old Town Square Animal Adoption Event, 11 am-2 pm, Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Hwy.
21 Community Farmers' Market, 8 am-1 pm, 10500 Page Ave.	22 Funday Monday, 10:30 am, Old Town Hall Planning Commission meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex	23 City Council meeting, 7 pm, City Hall Annex [CC]	24	25 Community Appearance Committee, 7 pm, City Hall Summer Under the Stars, 7:30 pm, Veterans Amphitheater	26  6:30-9:30 pm; road closures in effect (see city website) BINGO, 7pm, Fire Station 3*	27 Community Farmers' Market, 8 am-1 pm, 10500 Page Ave. Kidz Korner, 10:30 am, Old Town Square Virginia Waterways and the Underground Railroad, 2 pm, Historic Blenheim
28 Community Farmers' Market, 8 am-1 pm, 10500 Page Ave.	29	30	31  For a full Citiescreen-12 schedule, visit fairfaxva.gov and click on "Services"	HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS City Government Information 703.385.7850 Arts and Cultural Events 703.352.ARTS City of Fairfax Regional Library 703.293.6227 Civil War Interpretive Center 703.591.0560 Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center 703.385.8414 George Mason University Events 703.993.1000		

*Bingo benefits the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department

***Non-perishable food donations accepted for Britepaths; call 703.385.7858

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Para solicitar ayuda con servicios de la ciudad o preguntas sobre esta publicación, por favor llame al 703-385-7800.

본 간담장과 관련하여 문의 사항이 있으시면
 ☎ 703.385.7800 (주)로 전화 주시기 바랍니다.

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 CityofFairfaxVA



WHY I VOLUNTEER

RYAN HORNER

CHAIR, BOARD OF
 ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

Years in Fairfax City: Four; architect, manages studios in D.C. and Arlington offices for AECOM

Why he volunteers: I work with a talented group of citizens to enhance, build and grow the sense of place in our community. We ask [project] applicants to describe the sense of place and tell us the outstanding characteristics of their development. These are the environments that become the new descriptions of the city and the places we gather, work and play.

Why he loves Fairfax City: We love its diversity of people, places and events. Our family has always lived in smaller communities, adjacent to large metropolitan areas. From the farmers market to plenty of ice cream, and from biking trails to parks, the city is a great place for families to grow.

Want to volunteer? There are currently positions open for the following boards and commissions: Board of Building Code Appeals (one vacancy for an engineer); Board of Equalization (one vacancy for a resident with real estate, financial or legal background); Commission on the Arts (two vacancies: one for a resident and one for a nonresident); Environmental Sustainability Committee (one vacancy for a city resident); Historic Fairfax City, Inc. (one vacancy for a city resident). Unless otherwise noted, applicants must have lived in the city for at least one year; they must also be a registered voter at their current address. To apply, visit fairfaxva.gov, click on "Residents" and navigate to "Volunteer Opportunities," or call 703.385.7935. Deadline: July 12

july

CULTURAL CALENDAR

Historic Tours Fridays, Saturdays, Any Day

Explore Fairfax history your way with these options:

Discover Fairfax history with a free guided tour of the oldest residence in the city, the Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House. *Free, 10386 Main St., most Saturdays 11 am-2 pm (call to confirm hours), 703.385.8414*

Tour the 1799 Fairfax Courthouse and Historic Records Center at 3 p.m. Fridays (excluding holidays and other court closures). *Meet under the courthouse arcade by the cannons, 4000 Chain Bridge Road, 703.246.4168*

Take a self-guided walking tour of Old Town Fairfax with a brochure available on the city website; search "Map of History"

Community Farmers' Markets, Saturdays and Sundays

Fresh fruits and vegetables are just some of the many attractions of the Community Farmers Markets, held twice a week and sponsored by the Downtown Fairfax Coalition. *10500 Page Ave. (across from Truro Church), 8 am-1 pm Saturdays (fairfaxsaturdaymarket.com); 10 am-2 pm Sundays (fairfaxsundaymarket.com).*

Movies in Fairfax, July 12, July 19

Movies Under the Moon July 12 at Van Dyck Park features *The Parent Trap* (1998); bring a blanket or low seating. Discover *Field of Dreams* at the Sherwood Center, July 19. Lights go down at 7 pm, Britepaths accepts food donations (list of acceptable items available). *Free, 703.385.7858*

Red Cross WWII Wartime Knitting, July 14

Learn about this volunteer relief work from Susan Robbins Watson, archivist and manager for historical programs at the American Red Cross. *Free, Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., 2 pm. 703.385.8414*

Virginia Waterways and the Underground Railroad, July 27

How did enslaved Virginians seek freedom with acts of self-emancipation along the commonwealth's waterways? Find out at a talk and book-signing by Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander of Norfolk State University. *Free, Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Hwy., 2 pm, 703.591.0560*